

Appl. No. 09/284,222

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 7-9 and 12-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103. More specifically, claims 7-9 and 12-16 are rejected in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,731,098 ("Suzuki") and Japanese Patent Document No. JP 9-213337 ("Koichiro"); claims 7-9, 12 and 14-16 are rejected in view of *Koichiro* as evidenced by U.S. Patent No. 5,989,743 ("Yamashita"); and claim 13 is rejected in view of *Koichiro* and Japanese Patent Document No. JP 8-195201 ("Abe").

Applicants note that an interview was conducted between Examiner Tracy Dove and Thomas C. Basso, undersigned attorney of record, on April 8, 2003 regarding the above-referenced patent application. Applicants respectfully thank Examiner Dove for meeting with Mr. Basso. Applicants believe that the interview was helpful in Applicants pursuit to place the present application in condition for allowance.

As previously discussed, claim 7 has been amended. The remaining pending claims depend from claim 7 and thus as a matter of law incorporate each of the features of same. Applicants believe that the claimed invention is patentable over the cited art, even if combinable. For example, nowhere does the cited art at least disclose or suggest a binder content that ranges from about 10 weight percent to about 15 weight percent as required by the claimed invention. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the obviousness rejections be withdrawn.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

For the foregoing reasons, applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and earnestly solicit reconsideration of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,
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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

Claims 7 has been amended as follows:

7. (Four Times Amended) A nonaqueous electrolyte secondary battery comprising:
- a positive electrode comprising a first positive electrode layer, a second positive electrode layer and a positive electrode collector disposed between the first positive electrode layer and the second positive electrode layer;
 - a negative electrode comprising a binder and an active material, the binder comprising a mixture of a fluorine polymer and an aromatic vinyl-conjugate diene polymer, the active material comprising a carbonaceous material wherein the binder comprises a weight mixture ratio of the fluorine polymer to the aromatic vinyl-conjugate diene polymer that ranges from about 1 to about 99 and wherein the binder comprises from about 2-10 weight percent to about 15 weight percent of a total weight of the negative electrode, and wherein the negative electrode comprises a first negative electrode layer, a second negative electrode layer and a negative electrode collector disposed between the first negative electrode layer and the second negative electrode layer; and
 - a separator disposed between the positive electrode and the negative electrode so as to form a laminate structure wherein the laminate structure is wound a plurality of times around a center portion of the nonaqueous secondary electrolyte battery.